

August 2017

## The Church 03 (Sermon Outlines)

Jim Bill McInteer

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### Recommended Citation

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# THE CHURCH HAS GIFTS WITH A PURPOSE

Eph. 4:11-13

I. The Lord carefully planned to have the church

A. It's only natural to assume He carefully plans all that goes in it.

B. Today we see some of His provisions.

Eph. 4:11-13 "And he gave some apostles

II. About the church there are several things to know - now we learn 12 things.

A. They will come in 3 courses

B. Be divided 5 - 3 - 4.

III. 5 different orders

A. Apostles

1. Must have seen Jesus.

I Cor. 9:1 "Am I not an apostle? Have I not seen

2. Must be witness of resurrection

Acts 1:21-22 "One be ordained to be a witness

3. Their authority ran throughout whole church

B. Prophets

1. Foreteller vs. forthteller

2. Gave some = set, appointed

I Cor. 12:28 "God hath set some in the

C. Evangelist

1. Bro't good news

2 Tim. 4:5 "But watch thou in all things

2. Surely he moved about.



## D. Pastors

1. Many consider pastor & teacher together.
2. I believe different, but surely pastor must teach.
3. He feeds.
4. He's a shepherd.
5. Jesus was

Jn. 10:11 "I am the good shepherd, the g.s.

Jn. 10:14 "Ibid. & know my sheep, and am

Heb. 13:20 "Now the God of peace that brot

I Pet. 2:25 "For ye were as sheep going

I Pet. 5:4 "When the chief sh. shall appear

## 6. Pastors are elders

(a) Evangelist c outsider

(b) Pastor c insider

(c) Can't exclusively

Acts 14:22 "Confirming the souls, exhorting

Acts 15:41 "And he went thru Syria confirmin

## 7. Every Chr. should shepherd all

## E. Teachers

1. See organization - plus administration

2. Think of our debt to teachers

3. W. E. Open House

2 Tim. 2:2 "And the things that thou hast

## IV. Three aims of all

A. Perfecting of the saints

1. Same as equipping, fitting out



2. Like setting a bone, mend a net. Put out of joint piece back.
3. Put a thing in position it ought to be.
4. Make each useful.
5. Henry "Bring those disjointed by sin back to usefulness."
6. Gifts are intended by good.
7. They are not for the enrichment of men but for the enrichment of their service to the church.

#### B. Work of the Ministry

1. Here is a practical service.
2. We do a real "deacon" service.
3. Equipped to serve.

#### C. Edify the Body

1. We build up, not tear down.
2. We daily make church stronger.
3. Are we growing numerically?
4. Are babes being matured?

#### V. End Result Seen

##### A. Unity of the faith

1. Everyone of us individually.
2. We everyone work to attain unity.

##### B. Knowledge of the Son of God

Gal. 2:20 "I am crucified c Christ

Rom. 1:4 "Declared to be the Son of God c pow

Heb. 4:14 "Seeing that we have a great high pr

I Jn. 4:15 "Whosoever shall confess that Jesus

I Jn. 5:5 "Who is he that overcometh the w.



I Jn. 5:12 "He that hath the Son hath life

I Jn. 5:20 "That we may know him that is

1. Be certain of Christ

2. Knowledge is deepest possible fellowship

3. Here means full, precise, correct

C. Wants a Perfect Man

1. R. C. Bell "Every min. the church must be climbing upward to this goal tho perfection will not be reached till Jesus comes."

2. Our aim is not decent lives, but perfect

D. Unto the Measure of the Stature of the

1. Be a Chr. in full maturity.

2. As long as God's children are in the world, they are growing.

3. This means sum of all the qualities that make Christ what He is.

West End 3-2-69



# WHAT IS THE GLORY OF THE CHURCH?

II Thess. 1:3-5

I. Introduction is the propounding of the question.

II. Before in Provision the Church existed in Promise and Purpose.

A. Daniel's Prophecy.

1. In Nebuchadnezzar's 2nd year had dream that cause sleep to depart.

Dan. 2:1 "And in the second year of the re

2. Magicians said "not man on earth" could interpret--only gods who dwell not in flesh. 10 & 11

3. Neb. said he'd destroy wise men. (v-12)

4. Daniel volunteered (v-16)

5. After prayer, at night, God told him. (v19)

6. Told Neb. "There is a God in heaven that revealeth secrets" v-28

B. Told the Dream.

1. Great image, brightness, form terrible. v-31

2. Stone struck it.

3. It was to fill whole earth (v-35)

Dan. 2:44 "And in the days of these k.

Eph. 5:25 "Christ loved the church

4. Thus church of today more glorious than in prophesy.

C. It would have to go some to beat Babylon, the head of gold.

1. It stood 600 BC--60 mi. S. of Baghdad

2. Note material with which identified--



gold! Bāb="gate of gold"

3. Babylon was city of the kingdom.

a. Laid out in perfect 60 mile square 15 miles on each side.

b. Wall 350' high, 87' thick

c. Moat around this of equal cubit capacity.

d. 666 squares, ea.  $2\frac{1}{4}$  miles in circumference, 50 streets ea. 150' wide, crossed at right angles, 25 st. going ea. way. Ea. st. straight and level--15 miles long.

e. 225 sq. miles inclosed surface had luxurious gardens.

f. Wonder of world--never before one like it or since.

4. I enjoyed hearing B. C. Brewer tell how it fell.

a. It was Belshazzar's time.

b. Cyrus laid siege.

c. Gathered within walls, provisions on hands for 20 yr., land within walls to raise crops.

d. Yet in security lay their danger.

e. Annual festival, mirth, revelry.

f. River Euphrates entered and emerged, passed under walls.

g. Changed chanel, so it was highway.

h. Did it on evening of feast day--3 bodies of soldiers: (1) turn river, (2) one where river entered and (3) 15 miles below at exit.



- i. Entered when fordable--explore way to palace, meet, slay guard and king.
- j. That night forgot to close gates.

Dan. 5 "In that night was B. slain

### III. When then is the glory of the church?

#### A. In its size.

1. 686 churches in Nashville--120 are churches of Christ--only 10 are Negro.
2. Every other day a city the size of Nashville comes into existence.

Zech. 4:6 "Not by might nor by power but b

#### B. Is it buildings?

1. Where are they?
2. Where are big ones?
3. Can we build one in N.Y.? God's not worshipped with men's hands.

#### C. Is it our program?

1. Schools (Catholics in NYC have more than we do everywhere), orphanages, aged, radio, literature like O.T. commentary.
2. What Felix sends for our preacher.

Acts 24:24 "And after certain days when

#### D. Is it our failures?

1. Our morality head the list?
2. Our sacrifices inspire the world? 250 missionaries? Clip on giving.
3. We suffer from fit-split-bit-us.
  - a. Guy can't get way and has a fit.
  - b. We split in "righteous" division.
  - c. Splendor into bits.

### IV. No, I feel in love.



A. As with a girl so a church and I didn't go looking for defects.

1. Recall white boots, Ju Go Ju jacket, and fierce independence.

2. I looked not for in growing toenails and still don't care for anyone else to.

3. Rather I found a love that grows.

B. Here is the glory.

2 Thess. 1:3-5 "We are bound to thank God

1. There were three things:

v-4 "So that we ourselves glory

a. Your faith groweth exceedingly.

(1) In Daniel story, called his 3 friends, turned to God for his mercies, so not perish. (v-18 & 19 "Then was the secret revealed")

(2) Do we pray about Viet Nam, raising up preachers, spread of church, families?

b. The charity of everyone of you all.

(1) Do I love my brethren--

(2) Do I love the visitors?

(3) Their love like a plant with "exuberant growth".

(4) Can faults blind to virtues?

(5) Are we bound, obligated to thank brethren, even imperfect one for good?

c. For your patience--steadfastness, endurance.

(1) This was loyalty--remaining faithful.

(2) Nothing takes away.

(3) Tell story of Donna Jean and Mary



Rebecca Moore. "You are my wee  
bonnie Scotch lassie, (in the new plaid  
coat) I am not--I'm a member of W.E.  
Church of Christ."

(4) For which ye suffer! Do we?

(5) Counted worthy--not counted critics  
of!

C. Glory in you--Faith--Love--Loyalth.

West End - 1/9/66  
Mr. & Mrs. Paul Roland - Ident.  
James David Sparkman - Bapt.



# WHEN THE CHURCH EVANGELIZES, WHAT DOES IT 'EXPORT'? (Heb. 1)

I. Our efforts in meetings, VBS, Lectureships & record contributions are no secret.

A. Madison & Broadway in top 50 in Bible School.

B. Power for Today - 56,000 sub.

C. Today we shoot for \$11,300.00 for Africa

II. Question arises, "Why are you so concerned?"

A. Why get excited - what have you got to offer not already getting.

B. What do you export?

1. I see auto competition.

2. I hear talk of imports & exports via tariffs.

3. What's the story religiously?

III. I believe 4 major facts will be established.

A. Dominion of Christ.

B. Doctrine Proclaimed.

C. Duty Enjoined.

D. Destiny Delineated.

IV. Dominion of Christ.

A. In all things we honor Him.

Heb. 1:1-5 "God who at

1. We wear His name.

Acts 11:26 "And the disciples were C.

(a) What are you religiously? Christian.

(b) No claim to be only Chr. but do claim to be Chr. only.



2. We exalt His person.

(a) My beloved son - Hear Him.

(b) Only begotten.

(c) All confess - Christ the Son of God.

Phil. 2:9 "Wherefore God also hath highly exal

3. No man, men, or movement on a par  
or pedestal with Him.

Acts 4:19 "Whether it be right in the s. of  
God to harken unto you more than unto God.

B. To Him be Glory - the Savior.

Acts 4:11 "This is the stone which

Acts 4:12 "Neither is their salv.

To his own Master he stands.

1. Thus the liberty in Christ even in  
diversion of opinion.

2. All hail the power - sermon, song,  
prayer, purse, communion.

I Pet. 2:24-25 "Who his own self bare our sins  
(that we being dead)

V. Doctrine Proclaimed.

A. The Bible is God's word.

II Pet. 1:20-21 "Knowing this 1st that no p.

B. It meets us in Judgment.

Jn. 12:48 "He that rejecteth me, & rec.

C. It calls for a critical examination of & a  
devout following of the sacred record.

1. Plan of salvation.

2. Order of worship.

3. Manner of living.

Zech. 8:19 "∴ Love the truth & peace



D. We do not believe all men have.  
 Zeph. 3:4 "Her prophets are light & treach.  
 persons; her priest polluted the sanct. &  
 have done violence to the law.

1. T. Campbell - Dec. & Address call NT  
 a "perfect constitution for worship &  
 government & insisted churches be  
 erected in "an exact conformity" to the  
 NT.

Lu. 8:11 "The seed is the word

2. You will find a "Thus saith the Lord"  
 attitude.
3. I don't think others are doing it & if  
 they were - I must too!
4. Supremacy of word - no right to teach  
 any other doctrine.

## VI. Duty Enjoined.

A. Note some words.

1. Repent.
2. Born again.
3. Buried raised.
4. Newness of life.
5. New creature.
6. A change is brought about - all for the  
 better!

B. It is summed up.

1. Love God - love man.

Jn. 13:34-35 "A new commandment

2. Be holy.



3. Be perfect.
4. Do good.
5. Choose excellent.

VII. Destiny Declared.

- A. Man has an eternal soul.
- B. It knows a destiny.
- C. Heaven or Hell.

2nd End 11-29-70

Gary Russell - Bapt.

Mrs. Verna Henderson - Denb.



# THE PUBLIC IMAGE OF THE CHURCH

I. We are all concerned about our image.

A. How do I look?

B. What did they say?

C. Shocked if we are misunderstood.

D. Corporations spend sums on how they appear to the public.

1. Want favorable, positive one.

II. What does Acts teach as the image of the early church?

A. Their major concern was how did they appear in eyes of God.

B. We shall study 4 vignettes.

III. The Start -- Enthusiastic.

A. Pentacost saw beginning.

1. 40 days after resurrection.

2. Holy Spirit came.

3. Early observers said "they are drunk".

Acts 2:1-12

a. N.T. shows connection with what wine does and H.S. does to a person.

Eph. 5:18 "Be not drunk with wine wherein

b. What does wine do to some?

(1) Give abandon.

(2) Give exhilaration.

(3) Gives release.

(4) Gives bonds or ties.

c. Do we see such in church?

(1) Man prayed, mixing figure, "Lord where there is a spark of enthusiasm among us, water that spark."



d. We seem to be afraid of enthusiasm.

B. Has anyone accused us of being drunk with the Spirit?

#### IV. Care of unfortunate.

A. Their compassion an impressive thing.

1. It was not verbal it was actual--not warmed and filled but actual.

2. They shared surplus.

Acts 2:44 "All that believed were together

45 "And sold their possessions and

Acts 4:32 "And the multitude of them that

34 "Neither was there any among th

3. They gave to women, they gave to Grecian widows.

B. How generous are our hands in service?

#### V. Thirdly they were Joyous and Powerful.

Acts 3:12 "Why look ye so earnestly on us, a

Acts 5:15-16-shadow "And they were healed

A. When have any scrambled to get in our shadow?

B. Who says "go to the church of Christ--they can get it done."

#### VI. Lastly they were Controversial.

A. In one jam after another.

1. Take Acts 16:16.

a. Paul and Silas heal "night club act."

b. Note what happened:

v-19 "And when her masters saw that the

(1) Harsh language--troubler.

v-20 "do exceedingly trouble our city."

(2) Racism and prejudice.



v-20 These men being Jews  
(3) New ideas.

v-21 "Teach customs which are not lawful"

(a) Rocking the boat.

(b) It's un-Roman (v-21).

2. Remember Thess.

Acts 17:5-7 "But the Jews which believed not"

3. Ephesus.

Acts 19:23 "Arose no small stir about that"

a. Paul said "That they be no gods which are made with hands."

Acts 19:26 "Moreover ye see and hear, that"

b. Demetrius called meeting of the SAE (Silversmith Association of Ephesus)

c. Said really not our money we worry about but the principle of the thing.

Acts 19:27-28 "So that not only this our city"

d. After seizing Gaius and Aristarchus they got in lots of confusion.

e. Town clerk made a speech.

Acts 19:35-41 "And when the town clerk had"

B. Do we assess things today as to what it does to self interest?

1. Tillich said Turtle made no progress till he stuck neck out.

C. Are we powerful, joyful, compassionate and controversial?

West End - 10/29/67

Cathy Hester - Bapt.

Kathy LaRue - Bapt.

Debbie Hasty - Bapt.

Mr. & Mrs. J. Thomas Best - Ident.



# GOD'S ETERNAL PURPOSE IN HIS CHURCH

Nazareth, Jerusalem, Garden -

Eph 3:10-11

Moments of despair

I. Common place can dim value of jewel.

A. El Bryant & whiskey judge.

II. Perhaps above answer to Christian's indifference & sinner's apathy toward church.

A. Homer Hailey just read Eph. & I saw.

III. Let's see Paul's picture of time.

God's Purpose) Mystery — + church (Inheritance)

A. Note what belongs to Christ.

Eph 1: 3-12 "Blessed be the God & Father.

B. Note what is said about church.

Eph 1: 22-23 "And hath put all things under

Eph 2: 16 "And that he might reconcile both

Eph 2: 19 "Now :: ye are no more strangers

Eph 2: 21 "In whom all the building fitly

C. Condition prior to this

Eph 2: 12 "That at that time ye were without

IV. Purpose of church

A. Unfolding of God's purpose in Christ

is seen in church, the eternal purpose.

Eph 3: 10-11 "To the intent that now unto



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From a bird eye you might see 2 trains running  
 side by side together. Just because you saw it wouldn't mean  
 it happened.  
 Chosen. Boat and ball game  
 Holy as I want to still drink  
 adoption. I see Red build fire on Christ mas - but he's gone  
 accepted - arsenic stamp Preach in Gm. Baptists who  
 Red. by blood (not water regeneration. "bapt" dead body to  
 please us, pretended that it alive."